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# ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

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**Subject:** Fire Rating of Interior Finishes in Army Facilities

**Applicability:** Guidance

1. Military Handbook (MIL-HDBK) 1008C, *Fire Protection for Facilities Engineering, Design and Construction*, is the tri-service criteria document that establishes fire protection design requirements for Army facilities. This document is in the process of being updated and will be converted to a Unified Facility Criteria document, i.e. UFC 3-600-01. The update is expected to be completed this fiscal year.
2. A significant change regarding interior finishes was approved and will be incorporated into the new UFC. MIL-HDBK 1008C has specific requirements for interior finishes. In MIL-HDBK 1008C, interior finishes on ceilings and walls are limited to Classes A, B and C, depending on the location of the finishes. Smoke developed ratings of the interior finishes are restricted to a maximum of 50 for Class A, 100 for Class B, and 200 for Class C interior finishes, when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84. NFPA 101, *Life Safety Code*, allows Class A, B and C interior finishes to have a smoke developed rating of 450. The new UFC 3-600-01 will require that interior finishes comply with the Life Safety Code and thus allow interior finishes to have a smoke developed rating up to 450.
3. The Life Safety Code may now be used as criteria for interior finish in lieu of the requirements of MIL-HDBK 1008C. For questions or comments, please contact Robert DiAngelo at (202) 761-5543.

  
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